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50 DIE IN AIR CRASH

Bogota, Feb. 16.
A four-motored airliner of the Colombian Avianca Lines yesterday smashed into a cloud-shrouded 9,000-foot peak in the Andes Mountains, and the mayor of a mountain village said all the 50 persons aboard were killed.

It was the worst commercial airline disaster in history. The DC-4 was carrying 46 passengers and a crew of four on a flight from the coastal town of Barranquilla to mountain-ringed Bogota airport when it plowed into Mount Tablazo, about 30 miles north-west of here.

The passengers included 20 Colombians and 17 persons from other countries, including an unspecified number of Americans. The plane was in radio contact with the Techo airport only a few minutes before it hit the peak when an explosion that was heard for miles. The mayor of the little town of Supata, at the base of Mount Tablazo, telephoned officials of Avianca—a subsidiary of Pan American World Airways—that the wreckage had been found and that all the 50 persons were dead. There were no other details.

The company had already sent out search parties accompanied by ambulances with supplies of medicine to Supata, which provides the easiest route off the rocky slopes of Mount Tablazo.

No Survivors
An Avianca spokesman admitted, however, there was little hope that any one would survive since an emergency landing was impossible in the wild terrain of the northern Andes.

The pilot and co-pilot of the plane—both veteran fliers—were Americans. The death toll of 50 exceeded the previous highest total killed in a single plane crash. Thirty-five persons were killed last October when a four-motored plane of the American Overseas Airlines crashed in Newfoundland on a trans-Atlantic flight.

The flight south from Barranquilla to Bogota is approximately 300 miles. The route is along the banks of the Magdalena River until it reaches the foothills of the Andes where the terrain rises sharply. Bogota itself is on a plateau at an altitude of 8,960 feet.

Colonel Charged As Deserter

Calcutta, Feb. 15.
Every facility possible was placed at the disposal of Lieutenant Colonel W. J. Cumming in preparing his defence against a charge of desertion, Major G. C. de Preat Gaillard, Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General of Bengal Area Headquarters, told a court martial today.

Cumming is charged with having deserted after he was ordered to Imperial during the great Burma campaign in 1944. He is alleged to have vanished from Chittagong early in 1944. Replying to Cumming's allegation that a "psychiatric" report on him was shown to him, Gaillard said that only two paragraphs of the report were shown to the defendant, under superior orders as permitted by the Army rules. "All facilities were placed at the accused's disposal for his defence," Gaillard said in answer to another question. Circulars were sent around to all Army head-

CHINA'S NEW OFFICIAL RATE OF EXCHANGE ANNOUNCED

Sweeping Economic And Banking Controls; Gold, Foreign Currency Transactions Forbidden

IMPORT SURCHARGE ABOLISHED

Nanking, Feb. 16.
Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek today announced sweeping economic and banking controls on which, he said, depended the survival of the Chinese nation. Following an emergency meeting of the Supreme National Defence Council, the Generalissimo disclosed a new official rate of exchange of CNS12,000 to US\$1 and that transactions in gold and foreign currencies are prohibited.

China's President slapped "rough and ready" income tax measures, and demanded that Chinese nationals sell their foreign assets to the Government at the official rate. He promised the drastic punishment of violators.

The Generalissimo listed the following 10 comprehensive measures to combat the country's economic crisis:

- (1) Government's foreign exchange is to be conserved to purchase raw materials and machinery, to keep factories running and the people's basic necessities supplied. The new official rate will not be subject to constant fluctuation.
- (2) The purchase and sale of gold and foreign currency transactions are prohibited to stop speculation.
- (3) Government will relieve the pressure on agricultural and industrial production through loans.
- (4) Government expenses are to be held to an absolute minimum and the country's administration is to be streamlined.
- (5) Collection of revenues is to be conducted with the utmost vigour.
- (6) Public services will have to pay their own way.
- (7) The question of labour and Government officials wages is to be reviewed.
- (8) All Government owned industries are to be specially supervised.

Profiteers
(9) Speculators, hoarders and profiteers will be severely punished.

(10) The Ministry of Finance will inspect private bank accounts and punish speculation. Generalissimo Chiang said there was no reason to give way to panic since the basic factors of the agricultural and industrial situation are sound; he blamed the current crisis on the eight years of war and one year of destructive peace.

He bitterly denounced the Communists for economic warfare and said the Government, though continuing to seek a political solution, would confine its military efforts to the protection and restoration of the communication systems necessary to the nation's economic life.

He promised he would try to step up exports.

FIRE IN THE HOLD

London, Feb. 16.
Fire equipment was rushed to Southampton docks today to meet the Danish cargo and passenger ship India which was coming in with fire in the hold.

The fire, in a grain hold, was believed caused by spontaneous combustion. The ship had aboard 28,000 cases of peaches which were undamaged. United Press.

WOLVES FREEZE IN ALASKA

London, Feb. 15.
A cyclone in New Zealand, cold so intense in Alaska that even wolves froze, and an alarming spurt in pneumonia deaths in Germany were the highlights of the world weather reports reaching Reuter today.

Here is a survey of the wintry world picture:—
Germany: A Hamburg mother found her two children frozen to death in bed. The city's pneumonia deaths jumped from 78 in December to 224 in January and the authorities issued a special warning about the dangers. The British and United States zones had three to five days of cold and hundreds of railway engines were out of action owing to the frost, which experts forecast would continue.

Canada: Temperatures were down to 81 degrees of frost and killed thousands of rabbits, foxes and wolves, a cable from

BRIGHTER BOMBS?

Glasgow, Feb. 15.
Sir John Boyd Orr, Director-General of the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organisation, speaking to the Scottish-USSR Society here today said: "If we took ten per cent of what the world is spending to make bigger and bigger bombs in preparation for the next war it would be enough to develop the scheme we all want."

Sir John admitted that he was puzzled as to why the USSR had not come into the scheme of food and agricultural aid set up by the FAO and said: "All that we are putting forward is exactly in accordance with the ideals of the USSR."—Reuter.

ing this year. No gold may be exported and individuals leaving the country may take with them no more than two tacks of gold, plus US\$100.

Price Control

The Government announced it proposes to control prices strictly by a system of consultation in certain designated areas between Government agencies and private businessmen. Additionally, all wartime price control regulations are immediately revived, including the outlawing of strikes or factory closures. Speculation, market manipulation and hoarding are prohibited.

A rationing system of daily necessities—rice, flour, cloth, fuel, salt, sugar and oil—will be instituted for public servants and cultural workers, and will be implemented first in Nanking and Shanghai.

The purchase or sale of foreign currencies is banned and foreign individuals' cannot be paid in these.

All Chinese citizens and corporations who have foreign exchange deposited in foreign countries must report this information to the Government and these foreign exchange holdings will then be purchased by Government at the official rate of exchange.—United Press.

ON OTHER PAGES

Page Three
Salvation Army Appeals for Funds.
Page Six
Mr. Devin Explains His Foreign Policy.
Page Eight
Home & Local Sports News, etc.

FRACTURED HER HIP

Grand Vic, Mo., Feb. 15.
President Harry Truman flew here today to the bedside of his 84-year-old mother, Mrs. Martha Truman, who fractured her hip in a fall at her home on Thursday.

The President brought with him Brigadier-General Walter Graham, the White House doctor, who will make an examination of Mrs. Truman.

Mrs. Truman is reported today to have spent a restful night.—Reuter.

Clear The Lines For Coal!

London, Feb. 15.
One hundred coal trains, carrying about 500 tons each, are moving on London today under priority orders and a further hundred are due to move in tomorrow. Every available railwayman is standing by on special duty to see them safely through to the capital's fuel starved power stations, Sir Guy Nott-Bower, Government spokesman, announced at the Fuel Ministry tonight.

Other freight is being held up to give them a clear passage on lines already stripped of every dispensable passenger train.

Meanwhile, over the stormy North Sea route, 26 ships brought 60,000 tons to London in the 24 hours ended 8.30 this morning, a further eight with 9,000 tons put to sea from the Northeast coast ports this morning and 17 docked empty ready for fresh cargoes after a record turn-round in London.

the Alaska-Yukon border reported. Moose survived. Czechoslovakia: Influenza is raging in Prague where work in public offices has been cut down and "coless" schools closed. Heavy snow has stopped coal deliveries to households.

N.Z. Cyclone

New Zealand: A cyclonic storm cut telegraph lines between Wellington, Auckland and other important centres and the storm is expected to rage for 24 hours at least. The temperature slumped 60 degrees to just over 40 Fahrenheit.

Australia: Storms cut off the power from a Melbourne hospital and the life of a girl in an iron lung was saved by the staff working a hand pump for over three hours.

Switzerland: The Lake of Zur is frozen for the first time in 18 years. Federal railways will tomorrow heat local trains for only six hours a day.—Reuter.

Labour M.P. Meets Guerilla Head

Athens, Feb. 15.
The story of his wanderings in Greece was related yesterday by Mr. T. G. Thomas, British Member of Parliament, who was earlier reported missing during a visit to guerilla-held territory and who returned here yesterday.

His visit to the Greek mountain bands was "purely accidental," he said. He had intended to visit villages north of Trikkala, in central Greece, to find out what the attitude of the people was like.

After going along main roads which he had been told by the British Military Mission were not mined, he went off the road to speak to some shepherds.

"A soldier in Greek uniform with a British cap came up," Mr. Thomas said. "When he understood who I was, I went with him to a cottage from where donkeys were provided, and I was taken to meet General Markou, Commander-in-Chief of all the partisans in Greece."

"Markou is mild-mannered, extremely courteous and obviously an educated man," Mr. Thomas explained that he had arranged with the British Military Mission at Trikkala, that he would be back on Tuesday. Later he sent a note saying he would return on Thursday instead.

"The message was delivered on Sunday, but my messenger was arrested by the gendarmes immediately afterwards, though he was later released," Mr. Thomas said.

As miners met at pitheads all over the country to decide whether to volunteer for Sunday work, it was announced that owing to severe weather, South Wales production in the week ended Feb. 8 was 60,000 tons lower than the normal output and the lowest for any week this year.

South Yorkshire miners decided not to work as normal repair work done on Sundays was considered vital to efficiency and safety, and Lancashire miners also decided against for technical reasons. More than a quarter of a million railwaymen are carrying on tonight under advice from their union leaders to accept changes in normal working practice to get fuel supplies mobile, while weather forecasters give warning that frost will be more severe than on any other night this week.—Reuter.

Frost Forecast

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Shark Bait

Victoria, Feb. 16.

An artificial leg was used here to trap a 15-foot white shark.

The shark had been swimming up and down outside the women's swimming baths. It was caught when a piece of pork bait fashioned to look like a woman's leg was put into the water.

There is no record of these sharks even having attacked a human being, and the zoologist gave as reason for using the strangely-shaped bait.

Examination of the stomachs of this and other sharks have shown them to have eaten a large Newfoundland dog, a bulldog, part of a horse, a pig, several sheep, a place of sucking, a ship's scrapper and a bomb whalebone.—Associated Press.

MR. ATTLEE IS CONFIDENT

Manchester, Feb. 15.
The Prime Minister, Mr. Clement Attlee, today expressed confidence that the "economic and social life" of Britain would be brought to a new level of prosperity even though this is a "critical time."

Speaking to the Cheshire and Lancashire Trades Council and TUC members, Mr. Attlee referred to the current coal crisis only once when he noted that "adverse forces of nature have struck us a severe blow." He said despite great difficulties which faced the Labour Government when it took office, substantial progress had been made and the "dignity of labour" reasserted.

"I am proud to see that today a man who drove a lorry is a great Foreign Minister. Men who worked in pits are responsible for agriculture, the Admiralty, Health and National Insurance. A Lancashire halftimer is today with general approval the Minister of Education," Mr. Attlee said.

He emphasized that Government action alone would not be sufficient to "accomplish the task before us. Understanding and whole-hearted support of the people are required." Mr. Attlee reviewed industrial progress which, he said, "reflects immense credit upon the people" considering manpower and material shortages. However, Mr. Attlee said that production still was the main problem.

Coalition "Nonsense"

"We are not producing enough to meet the needs of our domestic consumers nor enough for industrial needs or exports. Increased production is essential."

Mr. Attlee, speaking later at Hanley, near Nottingham, tonight, said he warned: the people in pre-election speeches that they were not going to "walk out of the rigors of war into full enjoyment of peace." He said the present food distribution was more just than it was during the war. He said he had known that the "aftermath of war would present the most formidable task."

The Prime Minister, in his brief talk at Hanley, also termed rumours of a coalition Government as "nonsense" and said the Labour Government was "going ahead with its full programme."

He said, "If anyone wants to come into the Government now to form a coalition they will have to come in on the Socialist programme."

THE WEATHER

The Siberian anticyclone has intensified and covers all Manchuria, China and the adjacent seas with a marked wedge of high pressure eastward of the Loochuan.

Today's Forecast: Moderate or fresh E winds inland, strong E winds offshore, moderating generally; weather cloudy with rain or drizzle at times and poor visibility.

Yesterday's Weather:—

Maximum: 57.1 deg. F. Minimum: 52.7 deg. F. Sunshine: Nil.

Rainfall: 1.3 mm. Total for Jan. 1-15: 23.1 mm. as against an average of 57.8 mm.

Baro. at sea: 1000.7 mb. Humidity: 81 %.

Rel. Humidity: 81 %.

Dew Point: 49 deg. F.

Wind Direction: E.

Wind Force: 23.

Cloudiness: 400 ft.

1000 ft. 1000 ft.

2000 ft. 2000 ft.

3000 ft. 3000 ft.

4000 ft. 4000 ft.

5000 ft. 5000 ft.

6000 ft. 6000 ft.

7000 ft. 7000 ft.

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49000 ft. 49000 ft.

50000 ft. 50000 ft.

Chiang Blames The United States

(By Harold Mills)

Nanking, Feb. 16. Sources closest to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek said he was fully convinced that force was the only means of settling the Chinese Communist problem and that he blamed United States suspension of arms sales and credits to his Government for enabling the Communists to continue fighting the Government.

The Generalissimo's reasoning, these sources said, was that the problem would have been settled quicker if the United States continued to supply arms and provide credits for his Government to take military steps necessary to destroy the Communist "private army."

One source said Chiang was bitter because this argument had failed to move President Harry S. Truman and General George C. Marshall who insisted that the civil war be halted, and the Government reorganized before they would extend further support.

Reds Blamed

Following the American decision in January to cease

further mediation attempts after the fruitless year's effort, Chiang's Government disclosed plans to reorganise but without including the Communists.

At the same time the Government is continuing a military policy of driving the Communist forces from the lines of communication which must be reorganised before the Chinese economic machinery can function.

Chiang blames the Communists—aside from harassing many of these lines—for hampering his moves and efforts at rehabilitation and reconstruction the past year.

Associated Press.

Reduced To The Ranks

London, Feb. 16.

Sentences were announced yesterday on nine corporals tried by court-martial at Lichfield early in January on a charge of mutiny. The charge arose out of troops walking off the Empress of Scotland at Liverpool on Dec. 10 as a protest against conditions on board.

Cpl. R. Dean, of the Buffs, was sentenced to three years' penal servitude and reduced to the ranks. Cpl. C. P. Marchant, West Yorkshire Regt., received a sentence of six months' detention and reduction to the ranks.

The following corporals were ordered to be reduced to the ranks: L. T. Anslow, Royal Signals; T. E. Blair, Royal Engineers; A. Buckingham, R.A.S.C.; J. Coventry, Durham Light Infantry; F. Pearson, Royal Scots; H. W. Stokes, Northamptonshire Regt.; and G. Watt, Cameronians.

Kempeitai To Die

Paris, Feb. 16.

Thirteen members of the Kempeitai (Japanese Gestapo) were sentenced to death (four of them in their absence) when the trial of 49 members ended in Saigon today.

Twenty-seven others were sentenced to forced labour, prison and solitary confinement, and there were nine acquittals.

The Japanese were variously charged with ill-treatment, torture and assassination of French members of the resistance movement in Indo-China.

The finishing touches were also put on the dossier of charges with which Japanese Army Captain Furukawa will be faced before a military tribunal at Saigon on Monday. The charges include outright decapitation of forty French prisoners and slower killing by torture of the other French soldiers.—Reuter.

URBAN COUNCIL MEETING

The principal item on the agenda of the Urban Council, which is meeting on Tuesday, is the appointment of a Select Committee to exercise the powers and functions of the Council under Section of the Advertisements Regulation Ordinance, No. 19 of 1912, as amended by Ordinance No. 16 of 1940, and under the by-laws of the said Ordinance.

PLAN TO RESTORE GERMANY'S SHATTERED ECONOMY

London, Feb. 15.

A plan under which Germany would gradually, with help from Allied countries, restore her shattered economy, is outlined in a document published by the International Committee for study of European questions.

Stating that there are outside of Germany between four million and five million German war-prisoners, the Committee suggests their employment as free workers on an equal footing with the workers of the countries in which they will be employed.

The aim would be to draw up a scheme which would permit payment to be received as reparations, to enable Germany to obtain foreign assets which would allow her to buy abroad foodstuffs and raw materials she needs, and respect the rights of German workers.

The Committee suggests that a percentage of the wages paid to each German under the scheme should be handed over to the Government of the country where he works. Half of this deduction would go to reparations and the other half to Germany for purchasing in that country goods that German requires, but the German Government would place in Germany a sum equivalent to that deducted by the employing country.

Huge Sum

The Committee states that with, say, a million and a half labourers working abroad, in three years the German Government would have at its disposal \$300,000,000.

This sum is \$50,000,000 more than the \$250,000,000 that Britain and the United States contemplate paying in the next three years to restore the economy of Western Germany.

The Committee adds: "Only such a system would make it really possible to ensure the re-Nazification of Germany, whereas to concentrate once more on German soil a number of men too great for Germany's resources would inevitably create unemployment and misery and this population would soon become a prey to nationalistic elements."

Germany, says the Committee, can help the reconstruction of Europe by her manpower, by exporting raw materials, chiefly coal, and by exporting manufactured goods.

Basic Factor

In the avoidance of war, the Committee suggests:

1. That Germany should be forbidden for a long period to own or develop means of transport other than ground transport.
2. Not to be allowed to make use of any sources of motive power other than those she used before 1939.
3. That an Allied Scientific Control Commission should be set up.

Revival Danger

London, Feb. 15.

The International Committee for the Study of European questions, in a strongly-phrased document today, warned that "if events follow their present trend" a revived Germany may emerge as a new "giant" alongside the United States and Russia.

It said the greatest part of Germany's industrial strength remained intact in spite of war and bombing.

The International Committee, in a report issued last month, had claimed that Germany had concealed in neutral countries important sums exceeding \$500,000,000.

The latest report warned that Germany would endeavour to secure economic liberation and restoration of her industrial power as a prelude to political liberation at a further stage.

As a result of a well-laid plan, Germany had obtained complete demographic superiority over her neighbours despite her war losses, the report.

The report said the total of Germans living within the borders of Germany was likely soon to reach 71,000,000 or some six per cent more than in 1933. On the other hand, neighbouring countries like Poland, had lost as a result of the war, 13.6 per cent of their population and France three per cent.—United Press.

Witness For Papan

London, Feb. 15.

Baron Gunther von Tschirschky, right-hand man to Hitler's ace diplomat, von Papen, leaves Britain tomorrow to give evidence on behalf of von Papen, who is appearing before a de-Nazification tribunal at Nuremberg.

Von Tschirschky has been endeavouring to get to Nuremberg since Jan. 23, when his presence at the trial was requested by von Papen.

In an interview today he said that he had received the necessary authorisation to travel after the Office of the United States Chief Counsel in Nuremberg had requested the Control Commission for Germany in London to provide him with a permit.

Von Tschirschky, who has appealed for British citizenship, is at present attached to the London office of the Albatross publishing firm.—Reuter.

To His Valentine

London, Feb. 16.

(Increased sale of cards for St. Valentine's Day was attributed to G.I. Joes, who are said to have popularised the custom among British women.)

In fifteen-eighty, you can quote me, A liney guy called Marlowe wrote, he held a torch for some blonde dame;

So, as a sort of rhyme, folks, Who's goofy over thatch that's yella And boids and flowers, I thought I'd tell a

Doll I know the same: 'O tick with me and be my honey I've got the dough—gee, I mean money—

Swell words will be my ruin, You're solid, babe; from church to Reno I'm sure for you, I've always been, so

Will you give my Valentine? Sugar, how'n I don't?

"HAVE AN H.B. AND THEN TRY"

The Hongkong Brewery & Distillery Ltd.

Obituary

H. Martin Little

Mr. H. Martin Little, former chairman of the Shanghai Waterworks Company, died in London on Feb. 15.

Mr. Little came to China more than 25 years ago and became director of the Shanghai Waterworks in 1921. In February, 1922, he became the company's chairman and held that post until October, 1945, when he retired and went to England.

The deceased was member of the Shanghai Club, Hongkong Golf Club, Country Club and other associations. He leaves behind a wife and three daughters, two of them married to Mr. F. B. Birch and Mr. N. M. W. Harris respectively.

Two Mans Arrest Three Men

London, Feb. 15.

Armed robbers who called on a doctor in Yumati last night had the shock of their lives when they found the patient with him was a Chinese Detective. Before they could snarl the local equivalent of "stick 'em up!" they were under arrest.

The detective was one Man Ho, who called on a Chinese doctor at 108 Reclamation Street around 6 p.m. Also around was one Man Lum, foki and no relation to Man Ho. The consultation was going along nicely when suddenly three men entered, two of them armed with revolvers. Perhaps they had grown careless as a result of earlier successes. Anyway, they certainly failed to take into consideration the man (or Man — or Mans, come to that) they were dealing with.

Man Ho whipped out his gun and stuck it in one man's ribs. Man Lum grabbed the other. The third man, unarmed, had to accept arrest as well and that most meekly.

Incidentally, there was another man around, name unknown and therefore simply referred to as the Fourth Man. He was with the robbers and keeping 'cave' in the street outside. He got away.

Generosity Her Fault

London, Feb. 16.

For a quarter of a century Mrs. Eleanor Alice Margaret Sheffield, of Hollyfield-road Sutton Coldfield (Warwickshire), has been noted for her kindness to people in need.

Because of her guilelessness, Mrs. Sheffield, 61, frail and snow-white haired, stood in the dock at Birmingham magistrates' court yesterday, while store detectives and a policeman alleged that she had stolen a coat from a city shop.

Mrs. Sheffield, an ex-nurse, prescribed treatment for them.

Months later, Mrs. Sheffield met the woman while she was shopping in Birmingham. The woman noticed Mrs. Sheffield was shivering and offered her an extra coat to wear to the bus stop.

"As I was walking towards the door the commissionaire stopped me and said the coat was not paid for."

Simple Belief

Mr. G. Neville Sperry, president of Birmingham Chamber of Commerce, told the Court: "Mrs. Sheffield's faults are her generosity and her simple belief in human nature."

The magistrates dismissed the charge.

Readers' Letters

Revolver Matches

Sir,—With the approval of the War Office and Colonial Office, the National Rifle Association are conducting Overseas Rifle and Revolver Matches for teams of British Subjects or British Protected Persons resident or stationed in the Colonies, Protectorates and Countries in the Empire.

The conditions of the Rifle Competition are similar to those of the "Junior Kolapore" Imperial Challenge Cup Match, to compete in which many of them have sent teams to Bletley in past years, and have been completed for by many teams since instituted in 1934.

The Matches may be fired on any day between 1st January and 31st December, and on any range in the competing country; the certified results will be sent to the N.R.A. for adjudication.

In connection with the Rifle Competition, under S.R. (b) conditions H.R.H. "The Duke of Gloucester's" Challenge Cup and "Lord Wakefield" Silver Medals, presented by the late Viscount Wakefield of Hyde, will be awarded to the Captain and Coach (if appointed) and each member of the winning team. The "Em-

French Policy Not Tied To Anybody

Paris, Feb. 16.

Socialist Premier Paul Ramadier declared in an interview today that there was no possibility of French diplomats teaming with Russia at the Big Four Foreign Ministers Conference in Moscow next month because French policy on Germany "does not coincide exactly with that of either America, Britain or the Soviet Union."

He added "We do not even know what Russian policy may be tomorrow."

Ramadier said France's policy of being mediator between the East and West remained unchanged.

"It will never change, because we cannot,"

He said France values "American and British friendship as much as we do Russian 'friendship'."

He was asked if French foreign policy depended on her geographical position—marked by her vulnerability to land invasion or her economic crisis characterized by the need of financial aid from the Anglo-Saxon countries.

"The geographical position of France in Europe is an invariable factor in our policy," he replied. "But it does not condemn us to an exclusive alliance with Russia. The economic crisis is a variable factor which can lead to changes in emphasis in our foreign policy as required by circumstances."

Associated Press.

Bigamy Case Adjourned

Bristol, Feb. 16.

Having heard at Dorchester Assizes the circumstances of a sergeant-major's bigamy, Mr. Justice Macnaghten decided to adjourn the case to Bristol Assizes in February.

The soldier, Edward Dyke Harkin, aged 36, of the R.A.M.E., was said by Capt. R. C. Allen to have been with him in Palestine. Capt. Allen added: "A better man I could not have had."

Mr. Maifang Walker, prosecuting, said that Harkin was married on Feb. 21, 1931, when a private, to Miss Kathleen Habel Rogers. He was posted to India the following year, and returned in 1940. Eventually he obtained married quarters at Bovington Camp.

In March or April, 1946, he was sent on circuit duty in south-west England, and met Miss Deryll Doreen Cottell, then aged 22, of Manor Home—terrace, London, S.E.—formerly in the A.T.S., but at that time helping her brother-in-law at his hotel in Cornwall.

Harkin told her he was a widower. He showed her photographs of his wife and children, who, he said, were killed in an air raid.

They obtained a long week-end leave, and in October went through a marriage ceremony with Miss Cottell. He wore the uniform of a lieutenant.

Sergeant George Warren gave evidence that there had been quarrels between Harkin and his wife due to their being out of sympathy.

They had been together for only four years out of 15 years' married life. They had been reconciled since this case began.

Mr. Guy Willett, defending, said that Harkin would lose his pension and all allowances if he were sent to prison.

No More Mickey Mouse-s?

London, Feb. 16.

There is a growing indication in Hollywood that short colour comic cartoons—such as Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck, Bugs Bunny and Andy Panda—will be seen less and less on the American theatre screen, and they may face eventual extinction.

Although these humorous short films have been popular features for adults as well as children they just are not the money-makers that other films are—that is when rental returns are compared to the costs of production.

Columbia studios already has abandoned such films and people who should know say their curtailment announcements are to be made soon.

Walter Lantz, president of the screen cartoon producers' association, declares the American public will see less cartoons in 1947, and as for 1948—well, Lantz is anything but optimistic.

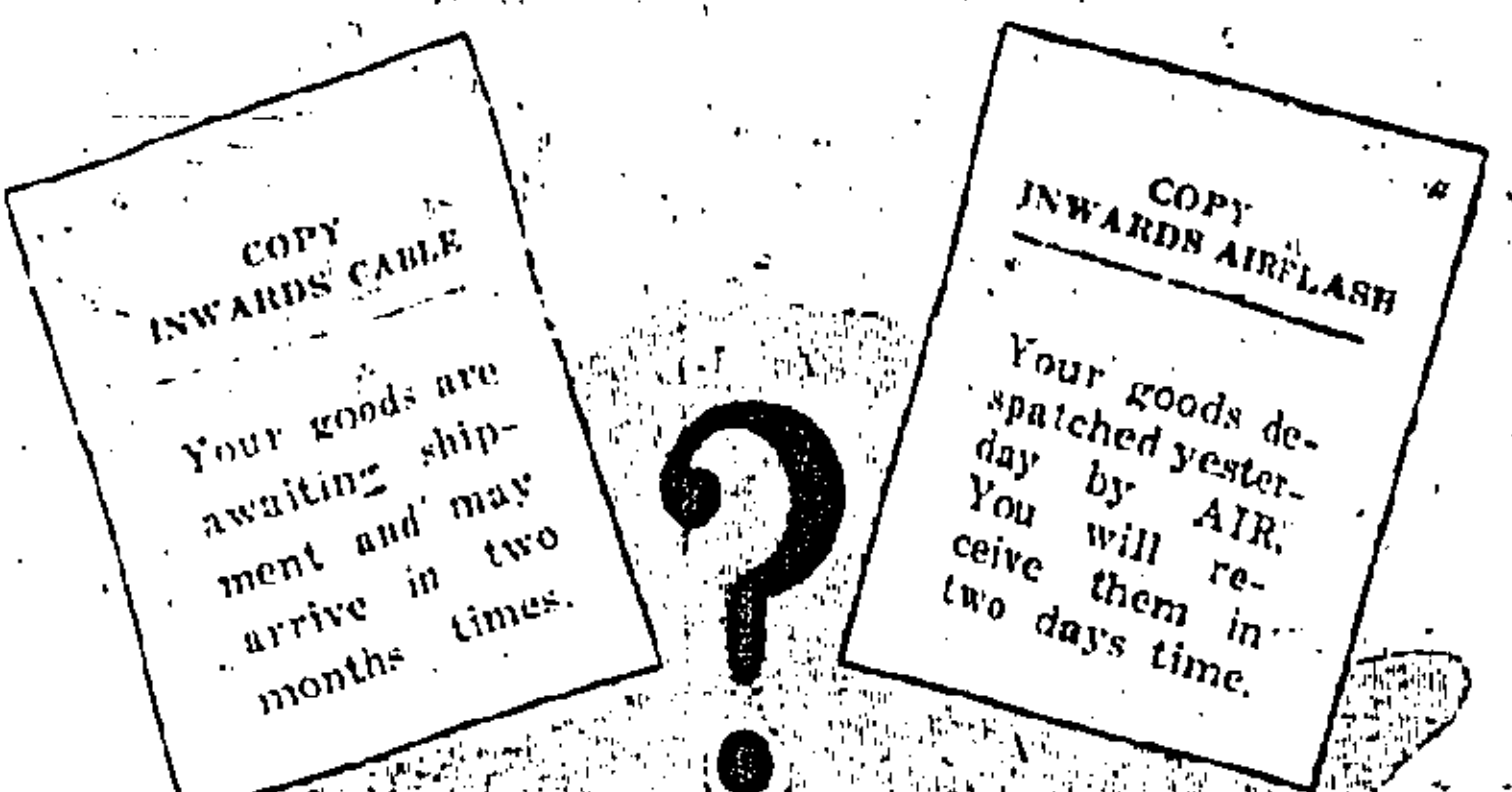
Rise in Costs

The reason for this pessimism is that cartoon costs have risen 15 per cent since 1931, while rentals to exhibitors have been increased only 12 per cent.

Although the public attendance at American cinema houses is reported to be at its highest level in history, cartoons are rented to theatres at flat rates of from \$2.50 to \$4 for each showing day, while the better features bring a return of a considerable percentage of the amounts paid for seats by the audience.

Added to this is the trouble of getting colour prints, and the public will not accept black and white cartoons.

It looks like some hard times are ahead for Mickey Mouse and other animal stars.—Associated Press.



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February Sessions

Thirty-three prisoners in 20 criminal cases, including two adjourned from the last Sessions, will appear before Sir Henry Blackall, Chief Justice, at the Supreme Court to enter their pleas on Tuesday morning at the February Sessions.

Of the 33 prisoners, six are charged with murder in four separate cases, two with manslaughter, three with shooting with intent to murder, six with demanding money with violence in three different cases, one with causing explosion likely to endanger life, and two with making a false death certificate or accessory before the fact.

Although robbery charges show a considerable decrease compared with any previous Sessions, the number of murder charges to come up in the current Sessions is the highest since liberation.

The case in which Robert Stanley Frederick Franks is charged with the manslaughter of Inspector Anderson is also scheduled for trial.

Following is the detailed list of cases in the February Sessions:

List

Mohammed Sadiq on five counts of collaboration, Wan Ying-kuen, Chan Wing and Wan Shu-fong, on murder, Kwok Hong and Li Kai on two counts of demanding money with violence, Sin Man-kwan, Lau Chi and Lam Chun on robbery by two or more, Yu Kau and Chan Hui-shan on making a false death certificate and accessory before the fact of the same offence, Robert Stanley Frederick Franks on manslaughter, Chow Chung-ki on demanding money with violence, Tse Chiu-lan on robbery by two or more, Ng Chi-wo on manslaughter, Chai Yung-fun on murder, Mohammed Asgar on 25 counts of collaboration, Fan Wah-yung on assaulting with intent to rob, Tse Wah-on armed robbery, Kam Tak on causing an explosion to endanger life, keeping explosive with intent and causing a public mischief, Chan Pui Tin, Nam and So Yee on two counts of demanding money with violence, two counts of possession of arms and one count of possession of the felony of uttering a letter demanding money with violence, Tsang Po-yan, alias Tsang, Shau-tai on shooting with intent to murder and assaulting with intent to rob, Chan Sun, Tse Loi, Leung Chiu, Leung Shui-ching, Lam Yi-lai and Tang Chong-ming on two counts of armed robbery and one count of possession of arms, Tse Ching on murder, Li Sang-on murder (adjourned from last Sessions), Mohammed Yusuff Shah on 23 counts of collaboration (adjourned from last Sessions).

Salvation Army Appeals For Funds

A broadcast was given over Z.B.W. last night by Mr. H. G. W. Woodhead C.B.E., Hong Kong correspondent of the London Times, on the Salvation Army appeal for funds to support its work in the Colony.

Mr. Woodhead said: "I feel it a great honour to have been asked to launch the Salvation Army's Rehabilitation Appeal over the air by my friend Brigadier Waller. I have responded the more willingly because of my conviction of the worthiness of the cause."

"Time was, within the memory of some of us, when the Salvation Army was regarded with what one might almost describe as contemptuous amusement. But that was a long time ago. Its justification for appealing for large financial contributions and its wisdom in expending them were endorsed by a representative committee of lawyers, politicians, chartered accountants etc. in 1890. Nine years later, at a meeting held at the Mansion House to promote its objects and maintain its funds, one of the most eloquent tributes to its work came from the late Mr. Cecil Rhodes who was about the last person to be taken in by any form of professional philanthropy. From its small beginnings in the East End of London the Salvation Army has spread all over the world until in 1943 its permanent staff numbered over 40,000 and it had upwards of 300,000 unpaid voluntary workers. It has become an essential organization wherever rehabilitation and relief are urgent problems. Let me give you the considered opinion of a well-known British historian, the late Justin McCarthy."

"There are other religious and missionary bodies which have even surpassed General Booth in the extent of their work throughout the world (this was written in 1911) but no lay movement set on foot for the spiritual rescue as well as the promotion of morality, good order, industry and physical comfort amongst the poorest classes has ever, so far as we know, equalled the amount of work done by the Salvation Army. It is one of the peculiar institutions of our time, and has come of late years to receive the recognition and encouragement of sovereigns, as well as of private philanthropists and philanthropic institutions."

Urgent Need

"Hong Kong is in the throes of rehabilitation, and one of the really important factors in that

task is the Salvation Army, which is fast in urgent need of being rehabilitated."

"It has been my privilege during a long residence in North and Central China, to witness the work of the Salvation Army at close quarters in many local emergencies. It became, indeed, a matter of course to invoke the Army's aid and co-operation whenever flood, famine, drought, epidemics and warfare created urgent relief and refugee problems. To the Army was assigned a major role in caring for refugees in recurring floods and famines in North China."

"The Shanghai Municipal Council, in 1937-8 was only too glad to entrust to the Salvation Army the housing, feeding and welfare of thousands of refugees who were left homeless as a result of the Japanese invasion. The Hong Kong Government during the influx of Chinese refugees after the invasion of South China, and also during the difficult months following V-J day, gratefully accepted the co-operation of the local Salvation Army staff. But the occupation of South China and later, of Hong Kong, by the Japanese resulted in the loss of practically all of the Salvation Army's resources and equipment. Indeed, in Hong Kong, the only establishment remaining was the Home for Women and Girls in Kowloon, now badly in need of renovations and new equipment. It was maintained during the occupation only by the generosity of Chinese friends, and the self-sacrifice of two women officers, Majors Brazier and Lemmon, who disposed of practically all their personal effects. Besides extending the work carried on here for delinquent and wayward girls, the Army is eager to establish two new centres for spiritual, moral and physical activities among the working classes and the destitute."

"Two outstanding features of the Army's work are its efficiency and its economy. Its personnel are consecrated to their vocation of dealing with spiritual and physical suffering, and live on what is barely a subsistence allowance. No organization in Hong Kong is better acquainted with the local problems of sin and poverty."

Modest \$50,000

"The present appeal is for fifty thousand dollars. This seems to me a very modest sum for the object at which the Army aims, and I should be very surprised if this target is not exceeded when the people of Hong Kong have been made aware of the Army's financial needs. For many Hong Kong residents who have not been in the sad plight of being destitute and homeless would pay eloquent tribute to the efficient and self-sacrificing work of the Salvation Army behind the battle fronts and in the reconquered areas."

"Hong Kong will, I feel sure, rally to the aid of the Army in its first and very modest peace drive here. Individual appeals are being needed to many residents today. But you need not wait to receive them, but send your contributions without delay to the local Headquarters, addressed to Brigadier Waller, 4th floor, Union Building."

A few weeks ago I spent a memorable evening visiting the Shelters which the Salvation Army is operating on behalf of the Hong Kong Government, where homeless and destitute can always find a night's shelter and a substantial meal. Fifteen Salvation Army Officers have, since V-J, been helping the authorities in the handling of camps, rice kitchens, repatriation, assistance

Demobbed, Live In An Institution

London, Feb. 16.

Three demobilised regular soldiers, evicted from married quarters at Fulford Barracks, have been installed themselves, their wives, and 15 children at York Public Assistance Institution.

The men, who have 44 years' service between them, searched fruitlessly for rooms, but found themselves unwanted because of the children.

They have now sent a telegram to the King and Queen asking for help.

Mrs. S. Dolman, wife of one of the men—an ex-sergeant in the Royal Engineers who was discharged as medically unfit—said last night that after being evicted she and her seven children slept for two nights in her husband's garage.

The Only Course

"They told us the quarters were wanted for married soldiers," she said, "and the families of demobilised men must go soon."

Cpl. A. Forsyth, who had 28 years' service in the R.A.M.C., also found the institution, the only course left open for his wife and their four children.

All the men are now working on civilian jobs in York, and two of the women are shortly expecting babies.

The institution waived regulations to house them. FOOTNOTE: It is believed that some other 25 families in the married quarters are under notice to quit.

VISA REFUSED

Washington, Feb. 15. Mr. John Grierson, former head of the Canadian National Film Board, has been refused a quota visa for residence in the United States, officials of the State Department said today.

They said that the visa was refused on the ground that Grierson was ineligible under immigration laws but they declined to say under which section of these laws. Grierson's application, they said, was made in Montreal last September. Since then he has been granted a temporary visa, valid for 29 days, to visit the United States.—Reuter.

to soldiers dependents, etc. If the Army's own chosen work is to go on, it must receive generous local support. Our stricken and impoverished homeland cannot be expected to finance activities in a prosperous Colony, so far overseas. So will you help, and by helping the Salvation Army help the community to which you belong?"

Simon's Legal Sensation

London, Feb. 16.

Lord Simon, writing in the "Sunday Times", created a sensation in political and judicial circles when he declared that no British Prime Minister would ever appoint a Catholic as Lord Chancellor.

It was a moot point whether Catholics were eligible, he said, but no Prime Minister would take the risk of making an appointment which could be challenged.

Lord Simon said that under a law of 1829, Catholics were prohibited from becoming Lord Chancellor by virtue of the declarations they were required to make.

A Test Act, passed in 1672, required that not only every Minister of the Crown, but every military, naval officer and every one who served the Crown in any capacity should, beside taking the oath of allegiance, make a declaration of his disbelief in transubstantiation, he said.

R.C.s. Excluded

"This was designed to exclude Roman Catholics from any form of Royal Service."

Lord Simon said that the Catholic declaration regarding the change of bread and wine at the consecration of the Blessed Eucharist into the body and blood of Christ.

Lord Simon said that in 1872 the then Attorney-General (Sir John Coleridge) expressed the opinion that the disqualification had been removed.

In 1891, however, an attempt by the Prime Minister (Mr. Gladstone) to pass a bill to this effect was defeated, said Lord Simon.

Afraid Of Burglars, Dies In Fire

London, Feb. 16.

Because of her fear of burglars, 80-year-old Mrs. Jessie Wiford, who for the past 30 years had lived alone in a flat at Bullingham mansions, Pitt-street, Kensington, always put the safety catch on the lock of her front door before going to bed.

At 1 a.m. that safety catch stood between her and rescuers who were trying to get into the flat which was ablaze.

The outbreak was first noticed by Mrs. Bland, occupant of another flat, whose bedroom was underneath that of Mrs. Wiford.

When she smelled burning and pieces of the ceiling started to fall, Mrs. Brand and Lady (Grace) Stanton, another neighbour, tried to get into the flat.

When they found the door locked the porter was called, but he could not open the door with his pass key because of the safety catch.

Badly Burned

"I called the fire brigade," the porter said today, "and two firemen broke down the door. They found Mrs. Wiford lying on the floor wearing her dressing gown. She was near an electric fire, and appeared very badly burned."

Mrs. Wiford died on the way to hospital. She suffered from deafness and a notice in her writing, "Please knock and ring loudly," still hangs on the front door.

The N.F.S. confined the fire to the room in which it started.

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The Undersigned have received instructions from the Custodian of Property to sell by Public Auction on

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The above mentioned articles will be open for inspection at their respective godowns on 15th February, 1947, between 10.00 a.m. and noon, and on 17th February, 1947, between 10.00 a.m. and noon, and between 2.00 p.m. and 4.00 p.m. Inspection Permits will be issued by the Undersigned at their Auction Rooms.

The Auction is subject to the Conditions of Sale published in the Hong Kong (British Military Administration) Gazette Volume 2, No. 12, of 9th March, 1946.

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HARBOUR DEPARTMENT

It is hereby notified that sealed Tenders, in triplicate, for the purchase of the following unserviceable craft will be received at the office of the Chairman of the Tender Board, Public Works Department, until Noon on Friday, 7th March, 1947. The tender should be clearly marked "Tender for the purchase of unserviceable craft".

The craft are to be sold as they lie and may be seen on application to the Superintending Engineer, Government Slipway, Yau-mat.

- (a) H.D.S.—Wooden Motor Launch without engine. Length 41' 6", Breadth 9' 0", Depth 4' 6".
- (b) No. 2 Police Launch. Length 100' 0", Breadth 20' 6", Depth 8' 6".
- (c) No. 1 Firefloat. Length 100' 0", Breadth 25' 0", Depth 10' 6".

Details of the specifications and present condition are available on application to the Superintending Engineer, Government Slipway, Yau-mat.

Tenders must deposit at the Prince's Building, The Treasury, the sum of \$500 (Five Hundred Dollars) for each tender submitted. This sum will be forfeited to the Hong Kong Government if the successful tenderer fails to complete the transaction. The deposit will be returned to unsuccessful tenderers.

The successful tenderer will be required to pay the purchase money to the Treasury within 48 hours of being advised of the acceptance of their tender.

Government does not bind itself to accept the highest or any tender.

J. JOLLY, Harbour Master, Hongkong, 13th Feb., 1947.

NOTICE

I have been requested by all Shipping Lines operating in the Far East Freight Conference to warn Consignees that notice to the Shipping Companies concerned in respect of irregularities such as pilferage and loss is not reported in many cases until days and even weeks have elapsed.

"It is imperative that immediate notice be given in respect of any such irregularities in order that investigations can be made with the least possible delay. It is pointed out further that failure to report immediately might affect claims against Steamship Companies."

J. D. ALEXANDER, Local Chairman, Far Eastern Freight Conference.

HONGKONG & WHAMPOA DOCK CO., LTD.

The Register of Members of the Hongkong & Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd. will be opened from Monday the 10th day of February, 1947, to Saturday the 8th day of March, 1947, both days inclusive and immediately thereafter will be closed again for the period from Monday the 10th day of March, 1947, to Saturday the 15th day of March, 1947, both days inclusive.

During the said period when the Register of Members will be so closed it is the intention of the Company to offer to members AS THEN SHOWN ON SUCH REGISTER 300,000 unissued shares of the nominal value of \$10.00 each at the price of \$20.00 per share (such price being payable in full upon application within two months from the date of such offer) and so that each such member of the Company or his approved nominee shall be entitled to apply for and take up as near as possible 3 unissued shares for every 5 complete shares then held by such member. Any shares so offered to members and not paid for on due date by them or those in whose favour they shall have wholly or partly renounced their rights will be taken up and paid for by Molliers' Trusts Limited at \$20.00 per share.

It is therefore very important that any persons who have purchased shares in the Company but are not on the Register in respect thereof should, if they wish to take advantage of such offer, forthwith on the opening of the Register present their transfers accompanied by the requisite certificates together with the approval in writing of the Registrar of Companies for registration.

The present authorised capital of the Company is one million shares of the nominal value of \$10.00 each, of which 472,875 shares have been issued.

By an Agreement dated the 4th day of February, 1947 and entered into between the Company of the one part and Molliers' Trusts Limited of the other part it has been agreed that, in addition to Molliers' Trusts Limited underwriting the said 300,000 unissued shares to be first offered to members as set out above, the Company shall also allot and Molliers' Trusts Limited shall take up and pay for:—

- (a) 27,125 unissued shares at par.
- (b) 200,000 unissued shares at \$20.00 per share.

By Order of the Board, R. G. CRAIG, Acting Chief Manager.

Kowloon Docks, 8th Feb., 1947.

Service Auction Rooms

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NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that HO HONG OIL MILLS (1931) LIMITED, incorporated and registered in Singapore, whose registered office is situated at No. 65 Chulia Street, Singapore, are the proprietors of the above trade marks which are being used by the said Company in respect of coconut oil, refined and edible coconut oil, margarine and subsidiary products manufactured and sold by them in Malaya, Netherland East Indies, Hong Kong and elsewhere.

AND NOTICE is hereby further given that legal proceedings will be taken against any person, firm or corporation using the said Trade Marks or any imitation thereof, or otherwise infringing the rights of the said Company in the said Trade Marks.

Dated the 17th day of Feb. 1947.

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YES, WHY DON'T YOU CHUCK IT, JANE? THIS IS NO LIFE FOR YOU—WITH ALL ITS SORDID INTRIGUES AND RIVALRIES...

YOU'RE BOTH WRONG! THERE MAY BE RIVALRY, BUT THE ARTISTES ARE ALL UNITED IN ONE THING—THE GOOD OF THE SHOW! AND I'M NOT GOING TO LET THE GREAT BANKRUPT DOWN BY QUITTING AT THE START OF OUR BEST SEASON!

I MUST CERTAINLY OFFER JANE THAT OTHER ACT I HAD IN MIND FOR HER!

Now What?

By EDGAR MARTIN

WARRON USION WANT TO SW. DOWLEY IT'S A MOST GENEROUS OFFER. I'VE BEEN THINKING IT WORTH TRYING YOUR OFFERING.

THEY IT'S A DEAL? SIGN HERE!!

BUT WHY?

YES MY DEAR, WHEN I WOULD HAVE TO GIVE UP MY POSSESSION?

COULD YOU? JUST A FEW MORE POSSIBLE DAYS!

WELL, I'VE GOT TO TAKE MY CHANCE!

COOR, I FEEL JUST LIKE A FLY BALL ABOUT TO BE CAUGHT!



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ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The family of the late ROBERTINA BAPTISTA wishes to thank all relatives and friends for their attendance at the funeral, messages of condolence, Masses, floral tributes and donations to charities.

ORDER OR CHAOS?

Though the full implications of the Palestine evacuation order can only be revealed by events the order has the immediate merit of removing from the reach of the terrorists those persons on whom they might take reprisals for firm measures. At the same time it constitutes an admission that terror has made normal civil government impossible and by implication elevates the status of Irgun from that of a criminal conspiracy in a civil state to something nearer an armed revolt. This is a position which will in all probability appear desirable to Irgun and which they can plausibly represent to their adherents as a victory. As Mr. Churchill pointed out in the Commons debate, a "squalid warfare" with a band of desperadoes is the one thing that should be avoided. Whatever view is taken of Mr. Creagh Jones's defence against the charges of surrender to violence, the substance of the case made by Mr. Stanley, that he had given the appearance of such surrender, remained unanswered. That alone has been enough to colour Irgun's claim that it could by force extract concessions from the British that would be denied to peaceful advocates of responsible Jewish leaders. The rest of the Palestine administration's failure to maintain normal civil order has been the absence of co-operation from the law-abiding members of the Jewish community itself. It is useless simply to abuse the Jews for this. The causes of this apathy, which dissolves the foundation of civil peace, are not far to seek. In the first place, the extensive and irresponsible promises made to the Zionists by prominent Socialists before their party came to power have contrasted most sharply with their actions in office. They give substance to an accusation that it is expediency only and not conviction that restrains the Government from implementing these well-remembered pledges, a contention which, as Mr. Churchill shrewdly observed, gained further credibility from the hasty readiness to offer sweeping concessions that marked the outset of the Egyptian negotiations.

It was not illogical to deduce from such an interpretation of British motives that an embarrassing campaign of lawlessness might well be rewarded by a volte-face. In the second place, the Jewish Agency has no prospect at all to offer to its people as the sure reward of adherence to the side of law and order. Absence of a declared policy has made it too easy for extremists to argue that at least there was nothing to lose by passive acquiescence in a campaign of terror, while much might be gained from a Government which seemed to exhibit every symptom of preferring the line of least resistance. Co-operation would imply positive acts involving risks that no men will take without either positive inducement or a lively sense of loyalty.

They pointed out that the Soviet Union appeared less interested in the territorial question than in a strong prohibition against revival of Pan-Germanism in Austria. It was felt in American quarters that Russia might yield in the frontier question if she won concessions on the Pan-German points. — Associated Press.

These scientific odds have been figured out by statistician Leo Guild in a fascinating book, "You Bet Your Life".

He reports that the odds are 1,000,000 to one against your ever becoming a millionaire. But your chances of having more money a year from now are five to four in your favour. Go fishing and the odds are three and a half to one that you will catch at least one fish.

In the Romance Department Leo Guild announces these findings: The odds are exactly even that your engagement will last a year, and the odds are 2600 to one against an elopement. The average couple will have one and a half children. Chances of twins are one in 90, triplets one in 8000, and quadruplets one in 700,000. The happiest couples are those married less than five years; the least happy are those whose marriages are between five and ten years old. A secret poll of 18,000 recently-married women revealed that only 56 per cent. married for love.

In the Crime Department here are your chances: The odds are 220 to one against a person being jailed. Men are twice as apt to serve a jail sentence as women. The odds are six to five that if you land in jail it will be because of drunkenness. Married women commit one and a half times more crimes than spinsters, but men break more laws when single than after they are married. If you are a man, the odds are ten to one that you have contemplated suicide. The answer is to have a good meal, because the odds are 40 to one against a suicide attempt on a full stomach.

In the Business Department here are some of your chances: The odds are 300 to one against your ever owning your own business. But if you haven't achieved success by 40, don't be discouraged; 64 per cent. of the world's greatest achievements have been made by men and 10 per cent. by people between 70 and 80. The chances are ten to one that you won't fail in business this year, and that odds on your getting a rise when you request it are even. Mr. Guild makes the interesting observation that the odds are two to one that you are unqualified for the job you now hold. He also says that the chances are 50 to one against a son adopting the same profession as his father.

In the Health Department you face the following odds: The chances are even that you'll live to the age of 67. The odds are one in five you will die of heart trouble, one in ten of cancer, one in 18 of pneumonia, one in 22 of tuberculosis, and one in 100 of suicide. The chances are even that you will suffer two colds in the coming year and each cold will last nine days. Whatever your illness, the chances are four to one that it started as a result of an emotional upset. As a final note Mr. Guild says that the odds are 145 to one against your taking a bath every day.

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BARCLAY ON BRIDGE
By Shepard Barclay
"The Authority on Authorities"

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Tomorrow's Problem
S K 6 4 2
H A 7 6 4 3
D K 4
C 7 3
S 103
H K 9 8
D A J 10 7
C K J 9 4
N
W
E
S
S 87
H Q J 10 5
D 2
C 32
C 852
S A Q J 9 5
H None
D Q 6 5
C A Q 10 6
(Dealer: North. Neither side vulnerable.)
North East South West
Pass Pass IS Pass
SS Pass SS Pass
Bid slightly differently at the various tables, this duplicate deal arrived at a spade small slam in most cases, and in each of them West, disliking leads from his side-suit honours, opened the spade 10. Some

of those Wests had a still more important reason for the trump lead—the perfect fit shown by North and South indicated a great likelihood of ruffing ability which could be destroyed by trump leads.
After the first trick, won by South's Q, the defence varied. The worst was where South, after leading the diamond 5 to the second trick, saw West hop in at once with his A because he now saw a "harmless" lead away from his hand. It was the diamond 7 to the K. Let's see how harmless it was. The club A took the next trick, the diamond Q furnished a discard the club 3, a club was ruffed, heart A was used for a diamond discard, heart 3 was ruffed, then straight cross-ruffing of hearts and clubs completed the hand with the last five tricks, using five trumps.
At another table, when South to the second trick led a diamond, West played low, then won the diamond Q with the A and returned his last spade.

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Here Are Your Chances In Life

The odds are three to one, against your kissing a girl the first time you take her out, but the chances are two to one that she will permit a kiss after the first date.

These scientific odds have been figured out by statistician Leo Guild in a fascinating book, "You Bet Your Life".

He reports that the odds are 1,000,000 to one against your ever becoming a millionaire. But your chances of having more money a year from now are five to four in your favour. Go fishing and the odds are three and a half to one that you will catch at least one fish.

In the Romance Department Leo Guild announces these findings: The odds are exactly even that your engagement will last a year, and the odds are 2600 to one against an elopement. The average couple will have one and a half children. Chances of twins are one in 90, triplets one in 8000, and quadruplets one in 700,000. The happiest couples are those married less than five years; the least happy are those whose marriages are between five and ten years old. A secret poll of 18,000 recently-married women revealed that only 56 per cent. married for love.

In the Crime Department here are your chances: The odds are 220 to one against a person being jailed. Men are twice as apt to serve a jail sentence as women. The odds are six to five that if you land in jail it will be because of drunkenness. Married women commit one and a half times more crimes than spinsters, but men break more laws when single than after they are married. If you are a man, the odds are ten to one that you have contemplated suicide. The answer is to have a good meal, because the odds are 40 to one against a suicide attempt on a full stomach.

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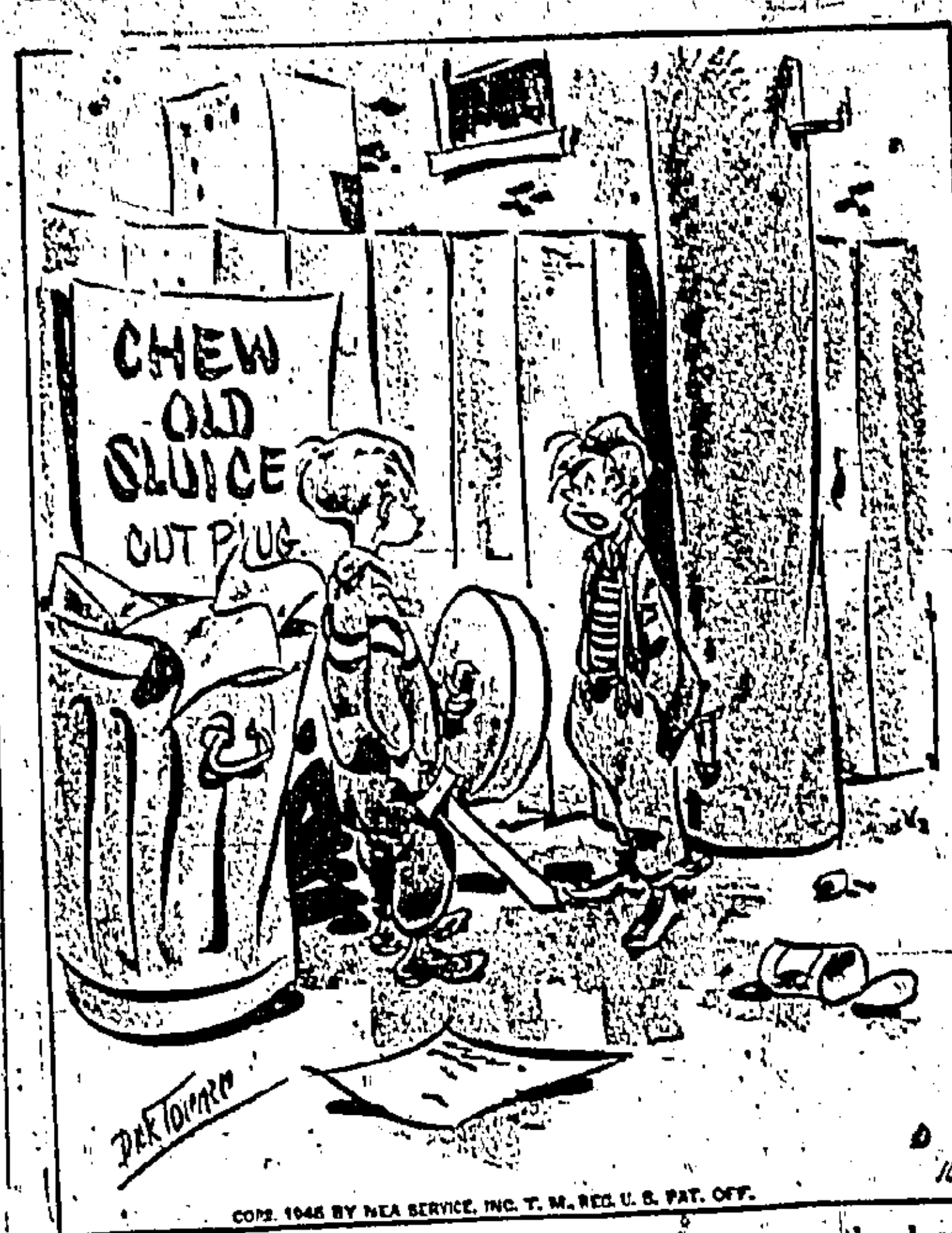
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CARNIVAL

By Dick Turner



"My mom is suing the old man for a divorce—the loser gets custody of me!"

Distinguished History Of The Devons

When the Duke of Devonshire raised his standard in 1885 at the head of a rebel army, in an attempt to seize the throne of England, among the crown forces which were raised to suppress the rebellion was the Duke of Beaufort's Corps of Musketeers. This force conducted itself with great loyalty to the crown and much gallantry in the field, and was incorporated into the regular army, becoming known as the 11th Buffs. From this beginning of valour and good conduct the Devonshire Regiment was to maintain through two and a half centuries a record of varied and outstanding distinguished service, which has made it one of the most interesting and outstanding of our county regiments today.

At the turn of the 17th century the new regiment found itself serving on the continent with the Duke of Marlborough's celebrated and victorious army, from which it must have received good training. Sometime later it took part in the ill-fated expedition to Boston, when the majority of the British transport ships were wrecked in the St. Lawrence River and the expedition was forced to return. In 1742, it fought under the command of King George II at Dettingen (Holland), the last battle at which an English monarch was in personal command of his troops in the field. In 1794, foreshadowing the amphibious warfare of later days, the members of the regiment were carried on board ships of the Navy to fight in the renowned battle of the "Glorious First of June" when the British naval forces beat the combined fleets of Holland and France off the Dutch coast.

Sixteen years later the regiment suffered the rigours of the Peninsular war in Spain, distinguishing itself in particular at Salamanca, where, in fierce and bitter fighting against the French, it went into battle at full strength and emerged only 67 strong. From this action it gained the nickname of the "Bloody Eleven."

In relation to their name, a singular coincidence occurred earlier in Holland, when, again in action against the French, the 2nd Bn. captured a set of brass drums belonging to their counterpart, the 11th French regiment; they then further improved the occasion by enlisting the musicians of a Prussian band to play them! In 1851 the regiment was stationed in Sydney, Australia at the time of the notorious Sydney gold rush, and it has been placed on record that the Devons were the sole English force who resisted the lure of the newly discovered "gold bug" and suffered no desertions. In gratitude for this orderly and (strong minded) behaviour on the part of the regiment, the people of Sydney presented it with a silver centrepiece which is still preserved in the officer's Mess.

In the South African war a member of the regiment was awarded its first V.C. when the 1st Bn. fought the famous action at Wagop Hill, an action which saved Ladysmith from capture by the Boers. The Battalion was then among the British forces besieged in Ladysmith and it is still commented upon in the officer's Mess that a bottle of whisky sold at £12 a bottle, a blackmarket price indeed! Among the forces who fought their way through to the relief of Ladysmith was the 2nd Bn. and the regiment was subsequently awarded the battle honours both for the defence and relief of Ladysmith and also received a special message of congratulation from Queen Victoria. The people of Devon showed their appreciation of their countrymen by the presentation of four silver drums to each Battalion.

The first world war inflicted on the regiment a tragedy worse even than the action which gained it the name of the "Bloody Eleven." At Bois de Butts in 1917 the 2nd Bn. was almost completely wiped out when they were cut off whilst gallantly covering a withdrawal, for this action the regiment was awarded the Croix de Guerre by France and is one of the only five regiments in the British Army to hold this honour. During the 1914-1918 war, two members, one of the 8th and one of the 1st Bn. were awarded the Victoria Cross. The 1st Battalion, which is now quartered at Stanley Barracks, Hong Kong, has been overseas for a considerable period, and prior to the outbreak of the late war saw active service in the disturbances in Shanghai and on the North West Frontier of India. They entered Burma in October 1943 and served with distinction throughout the campaign with the 80th Brigade, which formed part of the 20th Indian Division. Their assault on Nippon Hill was one of the bloodiest actions of the campaign for it was here the battalion captured from the Japanese their strongly fortified position after six previous counter attacks had failed. In April 1945 the battalion was withdrawn and flown to India where it was reformed with the British 2nd Division in preparation for the proposed invasion of Malaya. On the Japanese capitulation it moved there in December 1945 and was occupied with anti-guerrilla activities and with internal security in general. In June it moved into Singapore and performed ceremonial and other guard duties; among them the ceremonial guard for the residences of the Commander in Chief of South East Asia Land Forces and of the Governor of Malaya. It also provided the guard of honour for the Duke of Gloucester on his way home from Australia. The Battalion is commanded by Lt. Colonel H. A. Borrodale, D.S.O.

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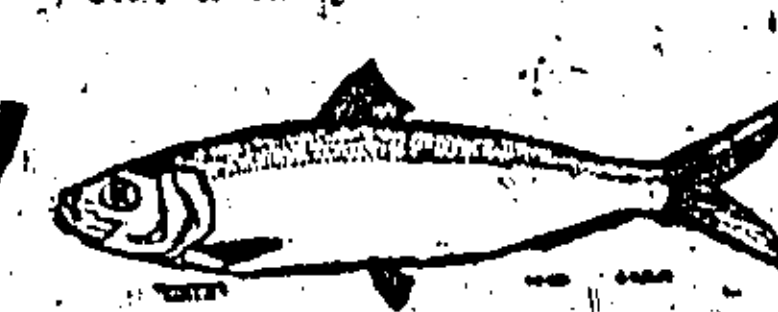
HONG KONG FISH

The shortage of fresh fish has brought to the fore a number of types of fish that before the war he would not thought of eating. It is hoped that in future the housewife will no longer be attracted solely by the costly Garoupa. The Mackerel-Scad season is in full swing and although it cannot be so strongly recommended as the Wong, it is nevertheless worth a good trial.



MACKEREL-SCAD (T'se Yue)

Most abundant at this time of the year and therefore comparatively cheap. This mackerel-like fish is good eating, although not as good as the true Mackerels. It has a bluish green back with a silver belly and grows to a size of 10 to 12 inches. Bake or fry. Must be eaten fresh. Average price in January, 90 cts. a catty.



GOLDEN SARDINE (Wong Chak)

Despite its name, this fish is more like the herring in shape and size. Nutritious but rather dry and therefore better baked with tomatoes or fried. Common size 10 to 12 inches, distinguishable by blue back with yellowish fins. Average price in January, \$1.00 a catty.



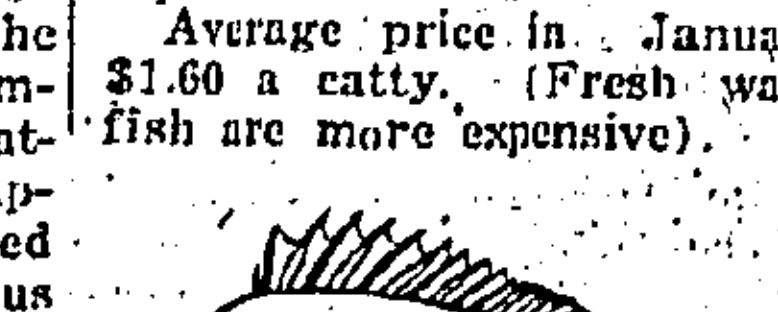
CHINESE MACKEREL (Ts'ing Kaan)

An oily nutritious fish that grows to a size of 3 to 5 feet. Long, with a moderately pointed snout, its back is deep blue and there are two rows of pale dusky spots above and on the median line of the body. Average price in January, \$1.70 a catty.



JAPANESE SEA PERCH (Lo Yue)

A good food fish that is available all the year round. Adult fish live in the open sea, but young fish are mostly found in rivers or brackish waters. Silvery body, greenish grey back with brown spots on dorsal fin and upper half of body. It grows to a size of 4 feet or more, but is available commonly at 8 inches to 2 1/2 ft. Bake or steam. Average price in January, \$1.60 a catty. (Fresh water fish are more expensive.)



BLACK SEA BREAM (Hak Lak)

A very good food fish that is abundant at this time of the year. Body, dark grey to black, pectoral fin transparent, but all others black. Steam or fry. Average price in January, \$2.40 a catty.

TOWN'S APPEAL FOR FOOD

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KRAFT K FOODS

KRAFT VEGEMITE - Yeast Extract



Delicious in SANDWICH, SPREAD, BEVERAGE, SOUP, etc. and supplying in an enjoyable form to children and invalids the so essential Vitamin "B" complex they need.

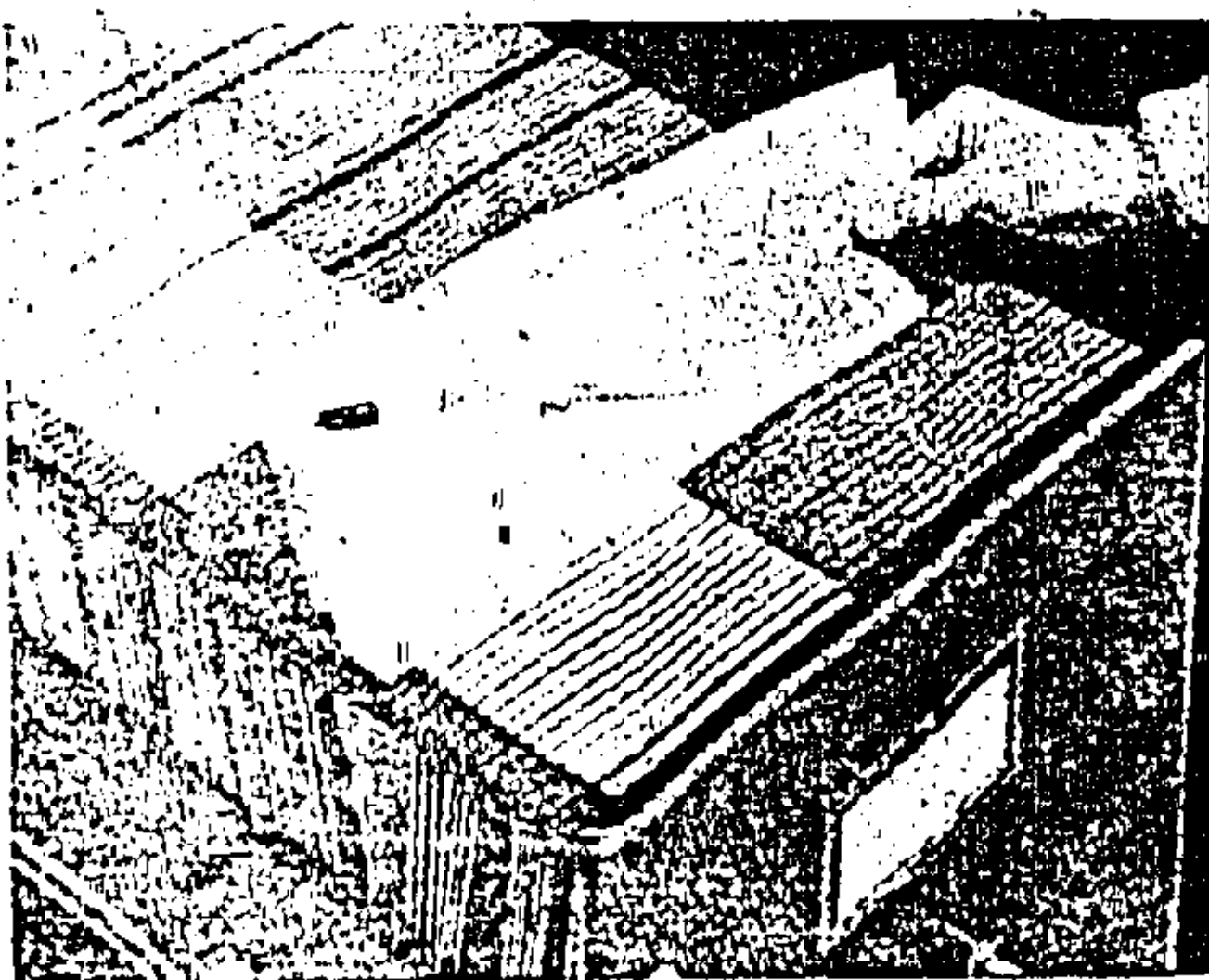
4 oz. jars \$1.45 per jar
2 " " .85 " "

Obtainable at ALL DAIRY FARM BRANCHES and from leading Grocers and Provision Stores throughout the Colony.
The Dairy Farm, Ice & Cold Storage Co., Ltd.
Sole Distributors for KRAFT PRODUCTS.

RONEO

SUSPENDED FILING SYSTEM

NO LOST LETTERS QUICK REFERENCE NEAT & TIDY



The first thing to notice about this system is the instant and complete visibility of all the names or titles at a glance directly the drawer is opened.

The second, that the frame work or cradle, from which the folders are suspended, drops straight into any ordinary quarter or full-size filing drawer, so that its installation entails no scrapping of present filing cabinets and consequently no needless expense.

Thirdly, the top channels on which the titles are indexed do not encroach upon the filing space or reduce the capacity of the drawer for papers.

CALL IN FOR A DEMONSTRATION

Sole Agents

DODWELL & CO., LTD.

Alexandra Building Tel. 20038

THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB

NOTICE TO MEMBERS
SECOND EXTRA RACE MEETING

Saturday, 22nd February 1947.

The first bell will be rung at 1.30 p.m. and the first race will be run at 2.00 p.m.

Through numbers (8 Races-\$16) may be obtained at the Office of the Treasurers, 1st Floor, Exchange Building, also tickets for the Special Cash Sweep (\$2,000) on the last race.

MEMBERS' BADGES AND ENCLOSURE.

Members are reminded that they and their ladies MUST wear their badges prominently displayed throughout the Meeting.

NO ONE WITHOUT A BADGE WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE MEMBERS' ENCLOSURE.

Badges admitting non-members to the Members' Enclosure and Club Rooms at \$10.00 including tax are obtainable through the Secretary upon the written or personal introduction of a member, such member to be responsible for all chits, etc.

Badges admitting to Members' Enclosure will NOT be on sale at the RACE COURSE.

The Treasurers' Comptroller Office will close at 11 a.m. and the Secretary's Office at 11.45 a.m. Both Offices at 1st Floor, Exchange Building.

A limited number of tickets will be obtainable at the Club House, provided they are ordered in advance from the No. 1 Box (Tel. 27318).

NO CHILDREN WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE CLUB'S PREMISES DURING THE MEETING.

PUBLIC ENCLOSURE

The price of admission to the Public Enclosure is \$5 including tax for all persons including ladies, and is payable at the Gate.

Bookmakers, Tip Men, etc., will not be permitted to operate within the precincts of The Hong Kong Jockey Club during the Race Meeting.

Refreshments will be obtainable in the Restaurant in the Public Enclosure.

SERVANTS' PASSES

Passes for Servants will be issued to Private Box holders ONLY on application to the Secretary, 1st Floor, Exchange Building.

Any persons found loitering with Servants' passes in their possession, will forfeit the same and will be removed from the Enclosure.

By Order,
C. B. BROWN,
Secretary.

LABOUR PARTY PRESTIGE
Political Effects Of Fuel Crisis
Attack By Tories
Improbable

London, Feb. 15.

The prestige of the Labour Government has suffered badly as a result of the great fuel crisis and many sections of British public opinion are still disturbed by the fact that such a devastating effect upon Britain's economic recovery could burst upon the nation without warning.

The fuel crisis, now over a week old, has probably passed its peak, in as much as the main task of keeping electricity generating stations in production is concerned, and political trends resulting from it have become clear.

It is still impossible to say how one it will take to restore the position to normal but the impact of the crisis will be reflected in virtually every aspect of the Government's economic and industrial planning.

The target of exceeding pre-war imports by 75 per cent will certainly be affected and so will the Chancellor of the Exchequer's budget plans, due in April.

Politically, repercussions are widespread. The Conservative opposition and Conservative press of the country have attacked the Government, hitting on the score of what it considers as inefficiency and has sought to place the responsibility upon the Fuel and Power Minister, Mr. Emmanuel Shinwell.

Floating Vote

The effect of this attitude has been to weld the Parliamentary Labour Party of 400 into a solid block of support for the Government, although many Labour members are perturbed about the situation.

Organised labour throughout the country is probably solidly behind the Government. The main damage to the Labour cause has probably been among that section of the British electorate which is the floating vote at general elections and has no strong party allegiance. Much of this section supported Labour at the general election.

But there is no question of any government collapse although if the Labour Government did have to resign, the attitude of organised labour in Britain towards the next government would be quite unpredictable.

Shinwell Supported

Mr. Shinwell may be blamed by a section of his party but the trade union movement and labour organisation throughout the country are standing behind him, holding that he is the victim of circumstances. That being so, there is little likelihood that he will be required to resign.

Trade unions and local labour parties see him not so much as the victim of the present crisis but in the larger context of the whole Socialist plan for industry in which, as the man responsible for improvement in miners' conditions, he is the key figure.

Opposition Split

London, Feb. 16.
Britain's Labour Government is for at least 18 months from now by the Conservative Party, which believes no crisis serious enough to overthrow its opponents.



IF you are TIRED DEPRESSED & RUN-DOWN WEAK... and want to BUILD UP... READ THIS!

Rice, butter, milk, fruit, green vegetables, etc., are good for you because they put nature's own Minerals and Vitamins into your blood and muscles—the bulk itself has no food value and passes off.

Without sufficient vitamins and minerals you become run-down, weak, tired and mentally depressed—SO—TRY THIS WAY TO NEW HEALTH, NEW VITALITY, NEW LIFE.

In these days of world-wide food problems it is vital that the minerals and vitamins your body needs should be replaced. Your system must have a daily supply of these health-giving elements. Vikelp brings them to you. The concentrated food value of Vikelp's 9 minerals, such as Iron, Phosphorus, Calcium, Sulphur, Food Iodine, etc., plus Vitamin B, is comparable to a daily diet of all these foods.

Start recharging your body with Vikelp. You'll begin to build up. More steady. There's more life and energy. You have found new health and strength.

VIKELP
MINERAL VITAMIN TONIC

B.B.C. CUTTING DOWN

London, Feb. 15.

The European transmissions of the British Broadcasting Corporation will continue as at present except that there will be a slight reduction of power on some of the short wave transmissions, it was officially stated tonight.

In view of the power cuts in Britain, the BBC Overseas Services have reduced the number of their transmissions by roughly half, and those that remain are operating at very much reduced power, resulting in considerable saving of power.—Reuter.

Another widely known Tory said: "Few people amongst the middle and upper classes realize what a complete social revolution the last election precipitated. The Labour Party has the bit of power in its teeth and there is no Tory rein strong enough to dislodge it."

During weekends spent in England's "black country"—the area from Birmingham to Derby—it was evident that almost without exception workers in England's industrial heart were willing to give the Labour Government a "second chance," on the theory that "the country really belongs to the workers."

19th Century Technique

The split among Conservatives is growing, in the belief among younger members that Mr. Churchill is not offering effective opposition in Parliament. They ridicule his "punch pulling" attack on the Government during last Monday's fuel debate, and there is sub-rosa talk of a "deal" not to hit hard as long as the Labour Party foregoes the nationalisation of iron and steel.

Young Conservatives complain that Mr. Churchill as the party leader still relies on 19th Century "in and out" politics in which, like a cricket match, each party after its turn in power concedes the other an innings. Many of them—including Anthony Eden, according to reports—believe the only way the Conservatives can return to power is by "outplanning" the planners of Socialism by a plan which would assist private enterprise in eliminating the present "economic waste."

For the past few months a number of widely known younger Conservatives have been meeting with Liberals and Independents. One such group, known as the "Augustans," has "branches" throughout Britain. Another is headed by Capt. Peter Thorneycroft, and two leading Liberals—Lady Juliet Rhys-Williams and David Goldblatt. These two groups merged this week, with Thorneycroft, Goldblatt and Lady Rhys-Williams as vice-presidents of the newly-constituted Augustans.—United Press.

Moscow Gets Hot Under The Collar

London, Feb. 15.

Moscow radio said tonight that Vyacheslav Molotov, Soviet Foreign Minister, has presented a note to the United States Ambassador in Moscow protesting against the statement made recently in the Senate by Acting Secretary of State Dean Acheson, regarding the foreign policy of the Soviet Union.

The note claimed that Mr. Acheson's statement was "blatantly slanderous and hostile to the Soviet Union."

The report said the protest involved Acheson's remark on Feb. 10 during a Senate hearing on the appointment of David Lilienthal as chairman of the United States atomic energy commission.

In reply to a question, the radio said, Acheson stated "Russia's foreign policy is aggressive and expansionist."

The Moscow broadcast, continued "Minister of Foreign Affairs Molotov dispatched a note to the Ambassador of the United States in Moscow, General Bedell Smith, which stated that the Soviet Government wanted to call the attention of the United States Government to the inadmissible behaviour of Mr. Acheson who—despite his official position—allowed himself to make to the Senate a declaration which was a gross slander and hostile to the Soviet Union."

EMERGENCY IN PRAGUE

Prague, Feb. 15.

At noon today the Czechoslovak Government unexpectedly issued an emergency order, to all theatres, cafes, movies and restaurants in Prague to cease trading until further notice because of the "calamitous" coal shortage resulting from the storm which created transport difficulties. The restrictions were not expected to last more than a few days.—United Press.

Princess Dead In Air Crash

Rome, Feb. 15.

Princess Amima Fazil of Egypt, mother-in-law of Prince Toussoun, was one of 16 persons killed when a four-engined plane crashed into the sea near Terracina, about 60 miles from Rome, today.

The Princess was one of the five sisters of King Farouk of Egypt. The plane had taken off from an aerodrome about 15 miles from Rome.

Italian seaplanes and naval ships immediately left for the scene of the accident but found no trace of the plane after a joint search. People in Terracina said they heard an explosion at about 12.30 local time and saw a plane crash into the sea.

The last message received from the plane said it was flying at 1,500 metres between two layers of cloud.

Terracina is a railway terminus and seaside resort on the Italian west coast and was often bombed by the Royal Air Force during the war.—Reuter.

In Flames

Rome, Feb. 16.

The plane was to have picked up a company of Italian opera singers in Cairo who were to return to Italy.

The Air Ministry announced at first that "at about 8.40 a.m. some fishermen off the coast of Terracina saw the airplane flying with two motors in flames and exploded as soon as it touched the coast about three miles off Terracina. Of the 12 passengers and five crew members no one was saved."—United Press.

Vanguard Nearing Capetown

(By Louis Wolff)

Aboard HMS Vanguard, Feb. 16.

Vanguard, now on the last lap on its journey to South Africa, made its first direct contact with Capetown today when a South African Air Force Sunderland, flyingboat flew out and dropped canisters containing final details of the Royal Family's tour and documents specially requested by the King.

The Royal Family are due to disembark on Monday after a welcome by General Smuts, South African Prime Minister. During the latter stages of the 17-day voyage from Portsmouth, the King has been studying drafts of speeches he will make during the tour.

Today, as Vanguard approaches the end of her voyage her decks were filled with busy sailors washing, scrubbing and painting but a high wind and a roughish sea would not allow her to stop as planned to have her sides painted.

Officers who had not had the opportunity of dining with the Royal Family last night and warrant officers were entertained by the King and Queen at a cocktail party.

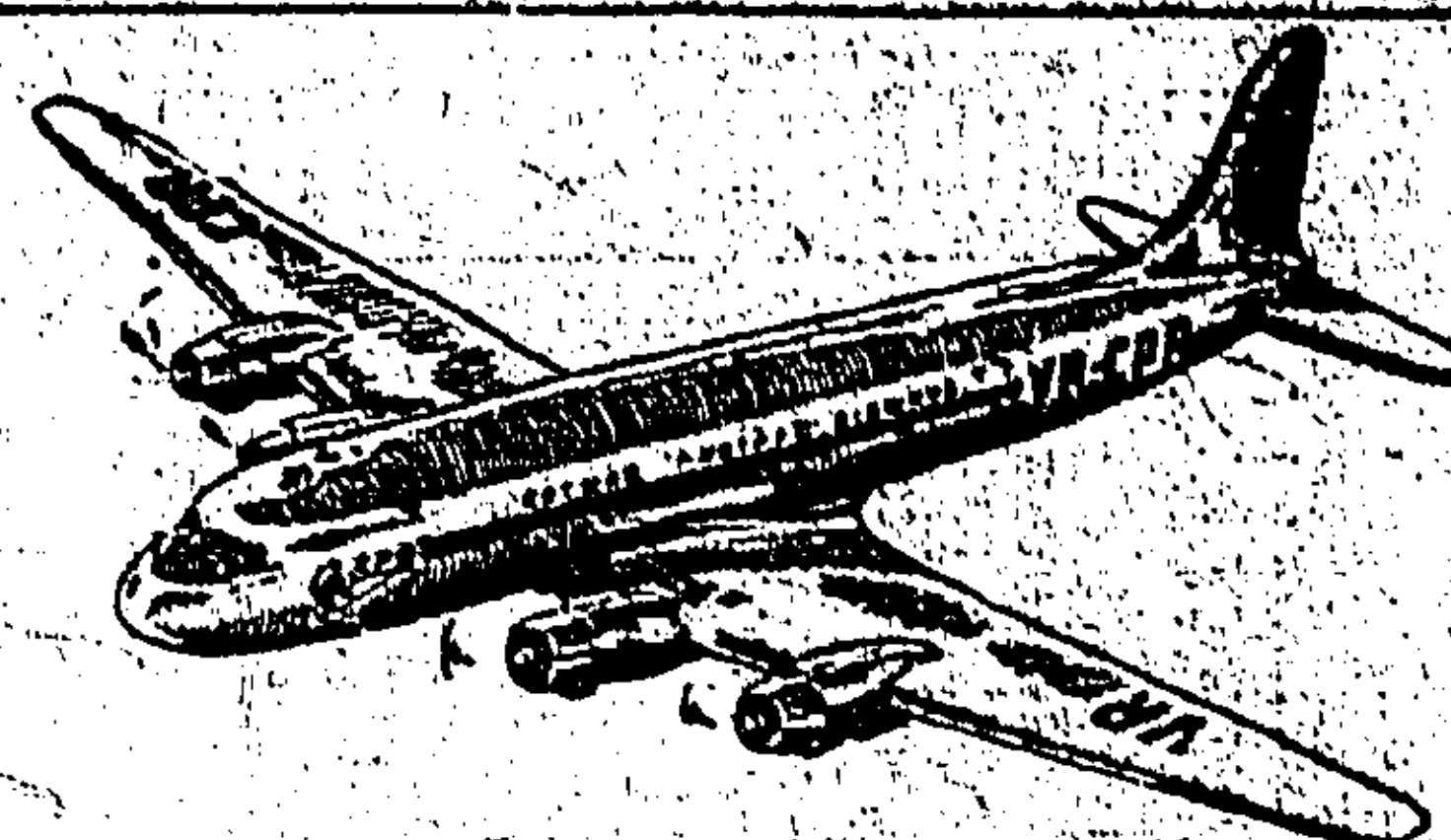
Dozens of signals have been received by Vanguard inviting her officers to dances, theatres, swimming, riding and other amusements in Capetown after the Royal landing.

Reuters Capetown correspondent reported today that the Royal visitors will see a living "welcome" formed by 1,200 white-clad school-children on the slopes of Signal Hill above Capetown.

Nine ships of five nations were due to sail today or tomorrow from Capetown while six were due to arrive tomorrow. One, the 10,000-ton Dutch liner Oranjestad, will be the grandstand for her passengers and crew for the arrival of Vanguard on Monday.—Reuter.

Atlanta, Ga., Feb. 16.
Homer L. Lewis, Jr., of Kansas and secretary of the Anti-Jewish and Anti-Negro Columbians Incorporated, was convicted on a charge of incitement to riot. The court promptly sentenced him to a year in a public works camp.—Associated Press.

The Hague, Feb. 15.
A Netherlands Military Mission will shortly leave for a five months' visit to the United States to study the application of the atomic bomb to warfare.—Reuter.



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